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Art Unit: 2627
Serial No.: 10/815,507Reply to Office Action of: 08/21/2006
Attorney Docket No.: K35A1345**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION****In the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [00017] with the following amended paragraph:

[00017] Continuing with Fig. 1, disk drive 10 includes a head disk assembly 12 and a printed circuit board assembly 14. Disk drive 10 includes a disk drive cover 18, a head stack assembly 36, and a permanent magnet arrangement defined by upper and lower VCM plates 46. Head stack assembly 36 includes an actuator body 42, a plurality of actuator arms 48, a pivot bearing cartridge 38 installed within a bore of actuator body 42, and a coil portion 44 having a voice coil. A respective head gimbal assembly 50 is attached to each respective actuator arm 48. Spindle motor 34 includes a shaft which defines a longitudinal axis 68. As shown in Fig. 1, a disk pack stack 66 generally includes spindle motor 34, disks 20, 22, 24, disk spacers 58, 60, and a disk clamp 62 for clamping disks 20, 22, and 24 to spindle motor 34 via suitable fasteners such as screws. Each disk may include a top recording surface 30 and a bottom recording surface 32. In alternative embodiments, disk drive 10 may include less than three disks, such as two disks, or may include more than three disks.

Please replace paragraph [00018] with the following amended paragraph:

[00018] In the embodiment shown in Figs. 1 and 6, disk drive 10 includes second disk 22 having a plurality of second disk through apertures 210 adjacent to an inner diameter of second disk 22 and a second disk spacer 60 having a plurality of spacer apertures 212, second disk through apertures 210 being circumferentially spaced-apart and extending longitudinally through second disk 22 and spacer apertures 212 being circumferentially spaced-apart and extending longitudinally through a portion of a thickness of second disk spacer 60. In an alternative embodiment, third disk 24 may also include a plurality of third disk through apertures which are aligned with the spacer apertures 214 of second disk spacer 60. In such an alternative embodiment, the

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spindle motor flange may include a corresponding set of apertures aligned with the third disk through apertures to allow airflow to pass through. In the embodiment shown in Figs. 1 and 6, the disk through apertures, the spacer apertures, and the clamp through apertures are radially and circumferentially aligned, i.e., the apertures are positioned above each other allowing for a maximum amount of airflow to pass through, thereby reducing disk flutter. In alternative embodiments, the apertures may be radially and/or circumferentially offset relative to each other in a manner allowing for sufficient airflow to pass through the apertures when the disks are rotating, thereby also reducing disk flutter.

Please replace paragraph [00021] with the following amended paragraph:

[00021] With reference to Figs. 5A and 5B, disk spacer 58 includes spacer apertures 112 on an upper ring 116 and corresponding spacer apertures 114 on a bottom ring 118. Each spacer aperture is a through aperture which together allow airflow to pass through. Upper ring 116 and bottom ring 118 are configured to define a generally U-shaped opening 120 in cross section view of disk spacer. In an alternative embodiment, disk spacer 58 may include a single set of circumferentially spaced-apart spacer through apertures extending through the thickness of disk spacer 58, in a manner similar to disk clamp 62. The spacer apertures, as well as the clamp through apertures shown in Fig. 3, may be formed via a suitable stamping and/or machining operation. The number and shape of the disk through apertures, spacer apertures, and the clamp through apertures may be different than what's shown in the figures.

Please delete paragraph [0008] to reflect claim cancellations herein.